#### Taking Home What We Have Learned

- Enhancing OWOW's current ecosystem programs
- Examining newly discovered opportunities
- Next steps
- Preparing for the future

# Enhancing OWOW's Current Ecosystem Programs

- OWOW is responsible for advancing new processes for ecosystem protection
- Restoration grants
- Nonpoint source controls
- National Estuary Programs

# Enhancing OWOW's Current Ecosystem Programs

- OWOW is OW's center for GIS and data management
  - **WATERS** --STORET -- Enviromapper
- Leader in setting data standards
  - ITIS -- Water Quality Data Standards-- NHD
- Volunteer monitoring
- Extensive training Watershed Academy

# Enhancing OWOW's Current Ecosystem Programs

OWOW 's regulatory programs rely on understanding ecosystems:

404 Wetlands 403c Ocean Dumping

303e/d TMDLs 301h Ocean Outfalls

✓ Program Integration Initiative – Core programs must function smoothly in order to examine new horizons

# Examining New Keystone Opportunities

- **25** Watershed Protection Grants in FY03
- **TMDL** needs

  - Workable water quality standards
- ✓ Integrated 303d/305b assessments
- Stormwater, CAFO permit processes

### Next Steps

- 1. The Sustainable Water Resources Roundtable
- 2. An "adequate state monitoring program"
  - New 106e requirements on States
  - Probabilistic assessments
- Gulf of Mexico Action Plan Implementation
- SoE Report
  - Regional examples

### Preparing For the Future

- 1. Landscape ecology must go local
  - Its where the bulldozers are
  - Local stewardship is essential
- 2. Assist where technologies fail us
- 3. Innovative partnerships and institutions